

Abstract of the thesis

“The Issue of an Offender’s Personality in Criminology”

Offender’s personality is a summary of various aspects influencing one’s behaviour in regards of a set offence. This paper focuses mainly on criminological and psychological aspects of people who commit violent crimes. It summarizes different typologies of offenders, schools of criminal causes, various aspects of personalities, and discusses prevention of criminality in the Czech Republic. In addition, it focuses greatly on stalking from theoretical as well as practical point of view through an extensive case study. The main foundation for this case study is a court case from early 2008, further anonymous due to request of the Municipal Court in Prague. Even though this case took place before stalking was recognised as a criminal offense in the Czech Republic, it served greatly as a foundation for its recognition, and thus plays a vital role.

The main research questions of this thesis are a) “*Why do people commit violent crimes?*”, and b) “*What are the main intentions behind it?*”. With deeper understanding of the knowledge of offender’s personality and motivation, findings of this paper can serve as a significant tool for prevention of criminal behaviour in society.

The major research goal was to conduct the case study, and show how important is for stalking to be recognised as a criminal offense. In the Czech Republic, this happened less than two years after this case took place. Offender’s testimony, and expert’s opinion was used to analyse the offender’s personality, and motivation. The offender was classified as resentful and rejected stalker. Based on the theoretical part, the combination of those two typologies is found very risky, and thus the offender’s re-socialization is almost impossible.

The knowledge of offender’s personality and motivation can assist not only during criminal investigation but also in finding the best possible way how to moderate his behaviour as well as justly punish him.